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Appl. No. 09/581,317

Amendments

In The Specification:

Amended page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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This object is solved with the ultrasonic transducer and the process according to the features described herein. Advantageous embodiments of the ultrasonic transducer and the process for its fabrication are also disclosed herein.

In the Claims:

✓ Please cancel claims 1-16 and add claims 17-29 as follows:

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17. (New) An ultrasonic transducer for use as a transmitter and a receiver in pulse-echo applications, comprising:

a membrane with a diameter and having a front side and a rear side with a main surface; means for holding the membrane, the holding means and the membrane being integral with one another and formed from a single material;

a piezoelectric disk having a diameter and disposed on the main surface of the rear side of the membrane to define a covered portion of the membrane and a remaining portion of the membrane, wherein the diameter of the piezoelectric disk is approximately between 60% and 85% of the diameter of the membrane;

a first substance foamed onto the main surface of the rear side of the membrane; and